

5 September 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief of Legislative Liaison  
Department of the Army

1. Attached herewith are copies of two letters, dated February 12 and February 26, 1951, from Larry S. Davidow of Detroit, Michigan, to Senator Homer Ferguson. These two letters were forwarded to General Bradley by Senator Ferguson under date of 1 March 1951.
2. Under date of 5 March 1951, General Bradley replied to Senator Ferguson and indicated that the matter might best be considered by CIA, and on the same date he forwarded the material to General Smith, the Director of Central Intelligence.
3. On 26 June 1951 Senator Ferguson wrote General Smith regarding our previous correspondence in this matter and quoted from a new letter from Davidow complaining on the slowness with which the matter was progressing following our initial contacts with him in Detroit. On 5 July 1951 General Smith wrote Senator Ferguson stating that we had a meeting with Davidow and an additional meeting with the New York headquarters of the Russian War Veterans Association, to which Mr. Davidow referred us. At this meeting we learned that a similar proposal to organize a combat unit of Russian expatriots had already been made by the Association to Secretary Pace. General Smith stated further that since Davidow's proposal was only indirectly related to CIA's primary mission and since the Department of the Army had the matter actively under consideration, we did not propose to take any further action. Our  informed Davidow that his proposal was being considered by the Department of the Army rather than by CIA.
4. We have also learned from the New York headquarters of the Russian War Veterans Association that a proposal for the organization of a combat unit of emigre Russians and onetime officers or members of the White Russian Imperial Army had been made to General William J. Donovan, wartime chief of OSS, by Colonel Serge Obolensky, and that Donovan had made the proposal directly to Secretary Pace. This proposal was being studied by G-3 and the Psychological Warfare Division.

Walter L. Pforzheimer  
Legislative Counsel

Attachments - 2

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cc - Admin. Files

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